

Appl. No. 09/943,465
Amdt. dated Nov 3, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 1, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has made a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121, grouping the claims into I to X Groups comprising various claims.

Applicant wishes to elect claims 1 to 12 and new claim 85 for prosecution in this application, with traverse. The Examiner has relied heavily in his restriction requirement on his belief that certain of the claims are classified in different areas and thus separate searches are required to be conducted. This may be true, but if it proves to be wrong, then Applicant reserves the right to have any such claims form part of the present application.

New claim 85 indicates a possible percentage of the percentage of cross-linking of the copolymer. This claim is supported by the language of the application in paragraph 00257.

Claims 13 to 15 are hereby cancelled from the application.

The Examiner indicates that if Applicant elects Groups I-IV, an election must be made to a specific polymer substrate and to the specific compound being produced in combination. Applicant elects polystyrene as a specific support and the dihydroxyalkylamino alkyl group. However, Applicant makes these elections with traverse as the Examiner has failed to provide any evidence of how these species are patentably distinct. In Applicant's view, they are not and should be examined in this application.

No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Further action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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